

it, and because he hoped they would for the future be good boys, but if ever they were guilty of the same fault, he would whip them very severely. Master Richards then gave them the halfpence he had promised, and rode home, happy in the delightful reflection of having acted properly.

As soon as his mamma saw him, she was apprehensive of some accident; but when he told her the reason of his early return, she embraced him, and led him to his papa, who praised him highly, and said, that such a son was an honour to his parents.

When the young gentlemen returned, they called upon master Richards, and after telling him that the wax-work was very fine, they added, but we assure you, master Richards, we all wish, that we had chose rather to have preserved the poor cock from suffering,

suffering, than to have felt a pleasure which was all over in half an hour. Indeed, says master Richards, if you had seen the happy creature, when he was set down upon his dunghill, how he crowed and clapt his wings, and how joyful all his family were to see him, you would have thought yourself rewarded for the loss of twenty such sights. I feel myself happy whenever I think of it. You find my dears, said master Richards, that the indulgence of benevolence, or kind affections, occasions the most rational and lasting enjoyment, while they who prefer a mere present selfish pleasure, to the practice of their duty, will repent of their folly; and be assured they will find, that their inattention to the distresses of others, will prevent their gaining either com-